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Franklin St. extension set for finish by September

June 8, 2016 - A \$298,000 extension of Franklin Street through the former Harbor Square apartments property - from Lincoln Street to Pembroke Avenue - is scheduled to be finished by September.

The extension, which includes a paved roadway, curbs and gutters, is in harmony with development goals for the property that are outlined in the city's Downtown Master Plan. According to the plan, property along Franklin Street north of Queens Way represent "the largest single block of land on which to create new urban housing" downtown.

The new, three-story Circuit Court building at the corner of King Street and Pembroke Avenue sits on part of the former Harbor Square property. But the bulk of the property has been earmarked for high-density residential and retail development.

The Franklin Street extension is part of a larger strategy to break up big parcels of land and provide greater access to property, said Donald Whipple, chief planner for the city.

Shamrock Construction Corporation of Newport News is performing the extension work. It is set for completion by September.